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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 629
By Miller J

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Stephanie Culberson,
upon being selected as Miss Tennessee 2001
and for her selection as 2nd Runner Up at the
2001 Miss America Pageant.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as outstanding Tennesseans of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary citizen is Stephanie Culberson, who was named Miss Tennessee 2001, and was thereafter selected as the 2nd Runner-up for the 2001 Miss America Pageant; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie was crowned Miss Tennessee 2001 during the 50th annual Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant, held on June 23, 2001; as Miss Tennessee, she received over \$18,000 in cash scholarships; and

WHEREAS, at the Miss America 2001 competition, Ms. Culberson competed against forty-nine other State winners, in addition to contestants from Puerto Rico and the District of

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Columbia, in such categories as interview, rapid-fire question- and-answer press conference, and evening wear; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being selected as Miss Tennessee 2001 and 2nd Runner Up in the Miss America Pageant, she has previously been awarded 1st Runner Up and the Talent Award in the Parade of Favorites; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Culberson's considerable accomplishments are a great source of pride for her parents, Barry and Dottie Culberson, her sister, Zabrina, her brother, Tyler, her community, and this State; and

WHEREAS, a native of Knoxville, Ms. Culberson is a highly regarded graduate of Temple Baptist Academy; she is the recipient of the Honor, Presidential, Robertson Leadership, and Celeste Ann Marley Scholarships; and

WHEREAS, a sterling scholar, Stephanie has maintained a 4.0 GPA since the third grade; majoring in Business and Piano Performance at Lee University, she is currently studying piano from Michael Brownlee, Assistant Professor of Music and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies for Lee University School of Music; she is an esteemed member of the Lee University School of Music Piano Ensemble and has performed in two Honors recitals; and

WHEREAS, this bright and talented young woman is very active in campus activities and has served as Secretary of Alpha Chi Honor Society, President of Sigma Nu Sigma and the Alpha Chi National Honor Society, and as a little sister for Alpha Gamma Chi; she is also a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, a dynamic musician, she has been playing the piano since the age of five; she started training in the violin at age 14 and voice at age 15; she also plays the mandolin, guitar, saxophone, bass, and psaltery and has received numerous awards for her extraordinary musical talent; and

WHEREAS, for her outstanding thirty minute piano performance of works from Beethoven, Chopin, Brahms, Debussy, and Scriabin, Stephanie Culberson was selected as the

2000 State winner of the Tennessee Music Teachers Association Collegiate Piano Solo Competition at Belmont University; and

WHEREAS, an advocate of volunteerism as a way of life, Ms. Culberson has generously dedicated her time and energies to the betterment of her fellow citizens, including volunteering with the American Heart Association and serving as Public Relations Chairperson for a 5K charity walk; she has also participated in the Cystic Fibrosis Walk and Domestic Violence Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, as Miss Tennessee 2001, Stephanie will continue to represent the State of Tennessee and its citizens with the utmost decorum, grace, and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, she epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; her dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect and admiration of this legislative body; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Stephanie Culberson for her significant achievements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Stephanie Culberson on being named Miss Tennessee 2001 and 2nd Runner Up in the 2001 Miss America Pageant, commend her on her dedication, enthusiasm and persistence, recognize her exceptional strength of character and her considerable musical talent, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

